

USSN: 09/736,858

Ref. No. 030116 (formerly 6295.N)

REMARKS

Applicants thank the Examiner for indicating that the pending claims 1-14, 16, 17, 22-25, 30-36, 38-45 and 47-67 are allowed. Applicants also thank the Examiner for withdrawing the rejections set forth in the previous Office Action. Claims 1-14, 16, 17, 22-25, 30-36, 38-67 are currently pending in the application. No amendments are made to the claims in this response.

In view of the following remarks, applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections and objections set forth in the Office Action.

Obviousness-Type Double Patenting Rejection

In the Office Action, claims 47, 48, 53, 55, 57-59 and 66 were "provisionally rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1-5, 7, 10-24 and 45 of copending Application No. 10/462,412." Included herewith is a terminal disclaimer over U.S. Patent No. 6,927,229 B2 (formerly Application No. 10/462,412) which obviates the ground for this rejection. Therefore, applicants respectfully request the Examiner withdraw this rejection.

Claim Objections

Claims 49-52, 54, 56 and 60-65 were objected to in the Office Action as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Applicants submit herewith a terminal disclaimer rendering the ground for this objection moot. Therefore, applicants respectfully request the Examiner withdraw these objections.

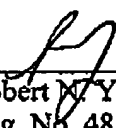
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CONCLUSION

In view of the above remarks and amendments, applicants respectfully submit that this application is in condition for allowance and earnestly solicit notice to that effect. The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number provided below if the Examiner believes such would be helpful in advancing the application to issue.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: 9-20-05
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